



# MENOMINEE INDIAN TRIBE OF WISCONSIN

P.O. Box 910  
Keshena, WI 54135-0910

February 23, 1999

UWA Working Group  
401 M Street (4503F)  
Washington, DC 20460

Dear UWA Workgroup,

Enclosed is the final Unified Watershed Assessment of the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin (MITW). This UWA was prepared under guidelines and timelines set by the UWA workgroup. Menominee Indian Tribe collaborated on the production of this assessment with the BIA Minneapolis office. This assessment is the result of the range of technical and planning analyses completed by the MITW Environmental Services Department to implement a program of preservation and protection of the watershed area.

Correspondence related to this project can be directed to:

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Apesanahkwat".

Apesanahkwat  
MITW, Tribal Chairman

A/hjs

Cc. Betty Jo Wozniak, MITW Tribal Administrator  
Mary Manydeeds, BIA  
Dan Cozza, EPA  
Gary Schuuettpelz, Director, ESD

## **Addendum to Final Watershed Assessment**

### **Background**

The Menominee Indian Reservation occupies 235,000 acres in northeast Wisconsin (See map enclosed). The land is currently 95% forested being under sustained yield management. The water resources available to tribal members include 50 + lakes and 350 miles of rivers and streams. Historically, the Menominee Indian Tribe occupied Northeastern Wisconsin. Their subsistence relied heavily on Wild Rice (Zizania aquatica) and Lake Sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens) from the Wolf River. The Wolf River has been congressionally designated a Wild and Scenic River within the Menominee Reservation. Tribal ordinances have been established to protect the integrity of Reservation waters.

The Menominee Reservation features some of the best-managed forested land within the Great Lakes Basin. Today the Reservation contains an abundance of pristine water resources, any with little or no connected to development. At the surface, reservation waters drain into Lake Michigan via the Wolf River in the Lower Green Bay basin and the Oconto River Watershed in the Upper Green Bay Basin. Water quality management within the reservation has direct impact in the water quality conditions of Lake Michigan.

Hydrologic Unit Code #	Basin Name
04030202	Wolf River
04030104	South Branch of the Oconto River

The Wolf River is designated under Category III which are watersheds with pristine and sensitive waters. This designation is prioritized as watershed that need protection.

The South Branch of the Oconto River and the West Branch of the Wolf River are under Category IV because there is not enough existing data. More data needs to be collected in these areas to allow for proper management practices.

### **Summary**

There exists great potential for future preservation/protection of watershed areas. The installation of the best management practices and intensive monitoring programs will result in improvements and maintaining high water quality.

Activities in the Wolf River Watershed determine the water conditions of the River within the Reservation. New and existing activities that affect the Upper Wolf River Basin include, but are not limited to, agriculture practices, including pesticide application and water withdrawal; forestry activities; recreational activities; impoundment's; wetland drainage; point and nonpoint pollution sources; and a major proposal by the Cradon Mining Co. to construct a large scale hardrock mine on a massive sulfide ore deposit in the headwaters of the Wolf River.

Our watershed priorities include: establishment of data base for the Wolf River Watershed area, prevention of degradation, investigate potential impacts ie.. groundwater interaction. More adequate data is needed for the West Branch of the Wolf River and the South Branch of the Oconto River. Without this data proper management practices cannot take place.

## **Menominee Indian Tribe Watershed Assessment**

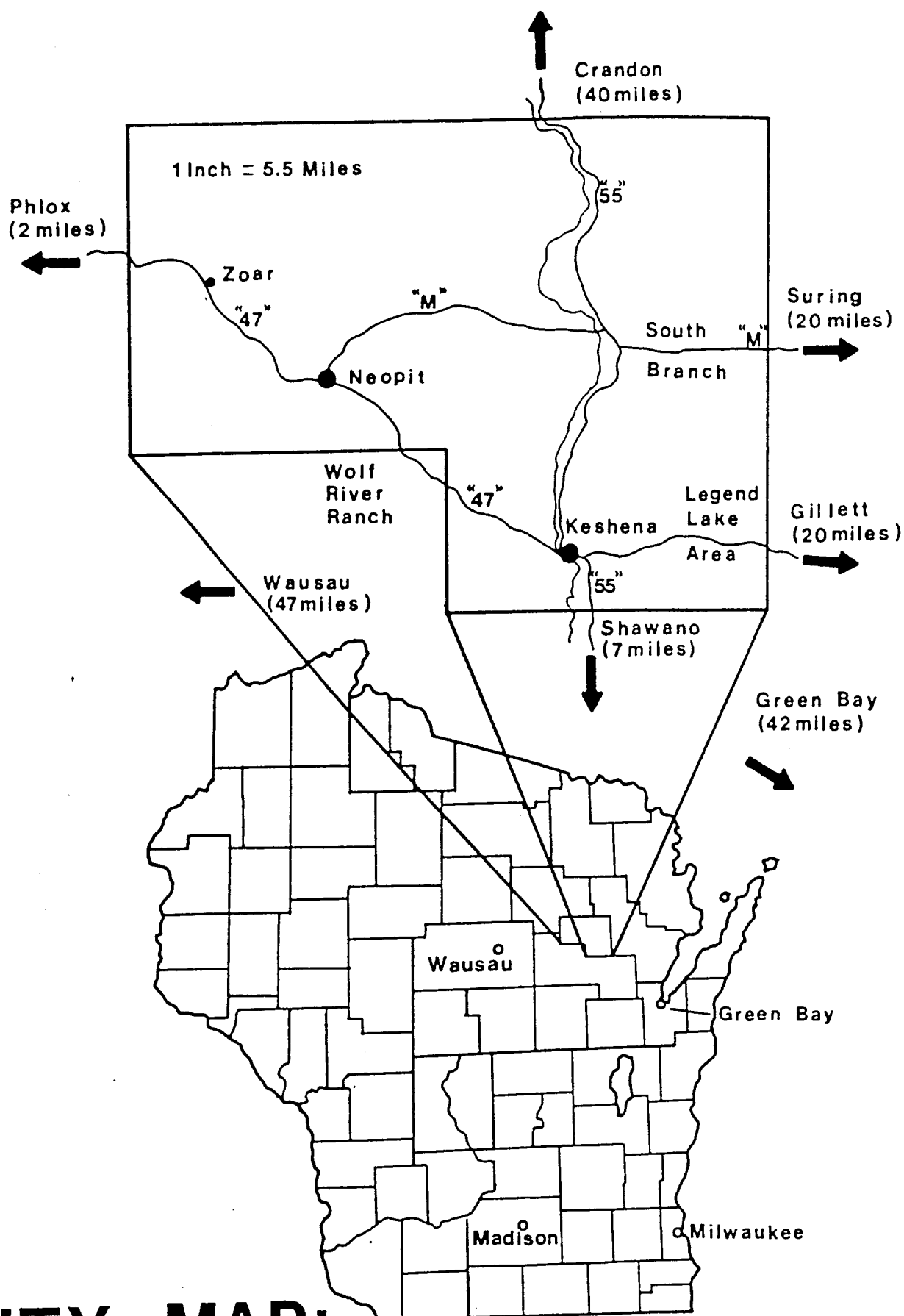
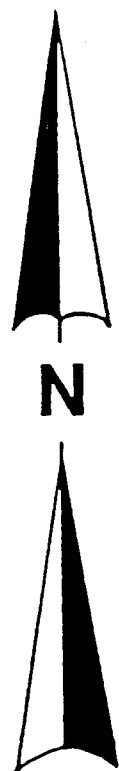
The watershed assessment done by the Menominee Tribe (Tribe) is in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources and the Natural Resource Conservation Service who is taking the lead for the State of Wisconsin in accordance with the Clean Water Action Plan.

### **Geographic Scope**

The watershed assessment addresses the three main watersheds on the Menominee Indian Reservation. They are divided between the DNR's Wolf River GMU and the Upper Green Bay GMU. The assessments address the waters as they exist on the Reservation and upstream from the exterior boundaries.

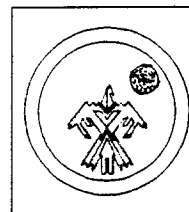
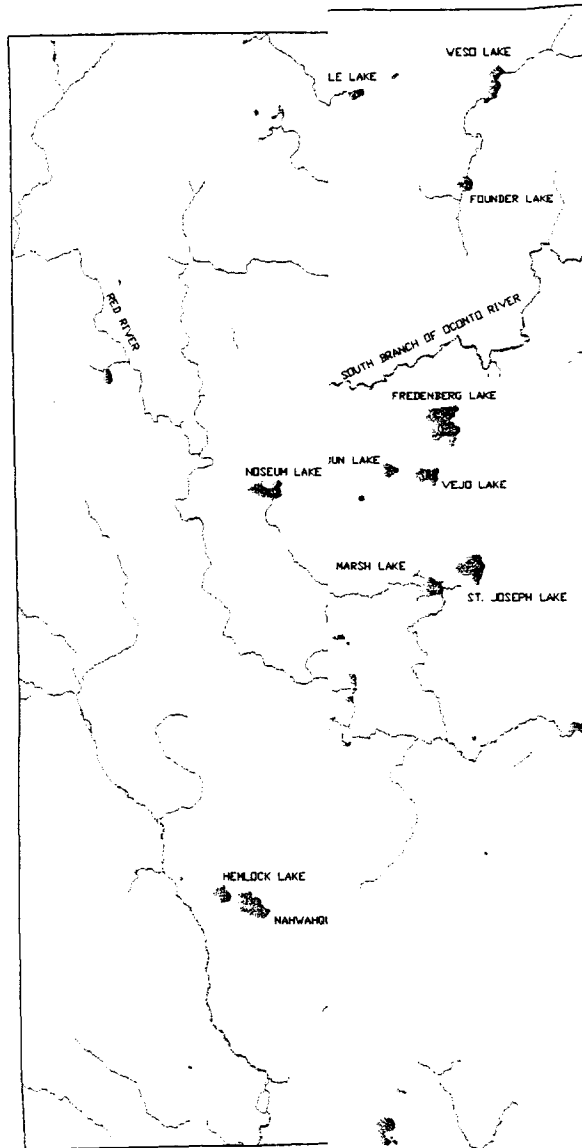
### **Priority Watersheds**

Watershed	Designation	Reason
Wolf River	Category III	The Wolf River is designated a Wild and Scenic River within the boundaries of the Menominee Indian Reservation.
West Branch of the Wolf River	Category IV	Sufficient data does not exist.
South Branch of the Oconto River	Category IV	Sufficient data does not exist.

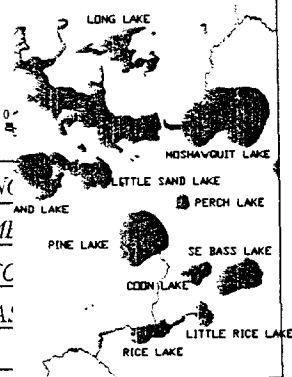


# VICINITY MAP:

## MENOMINEE RESERVATION



MEN
MI
CC
BA

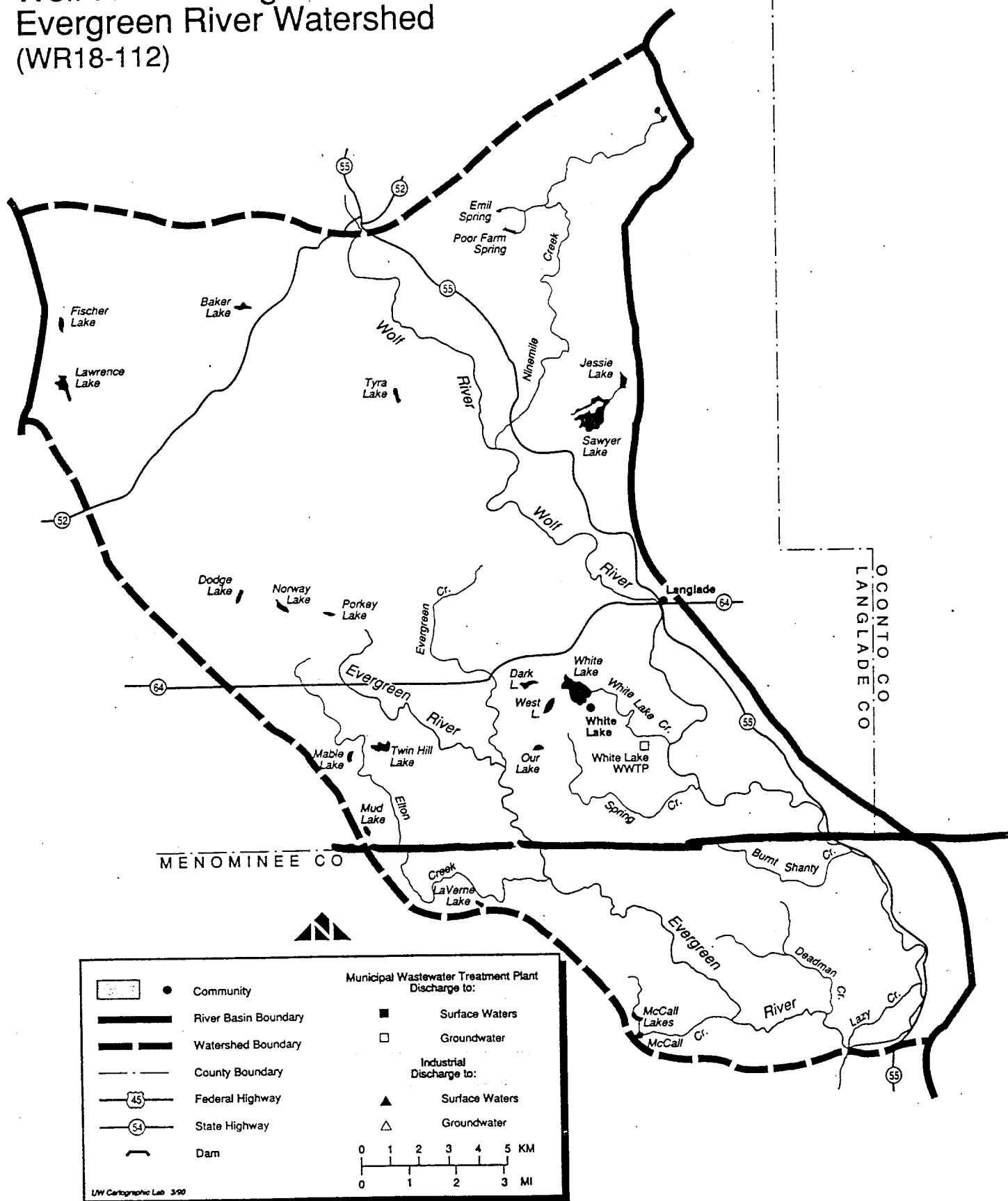


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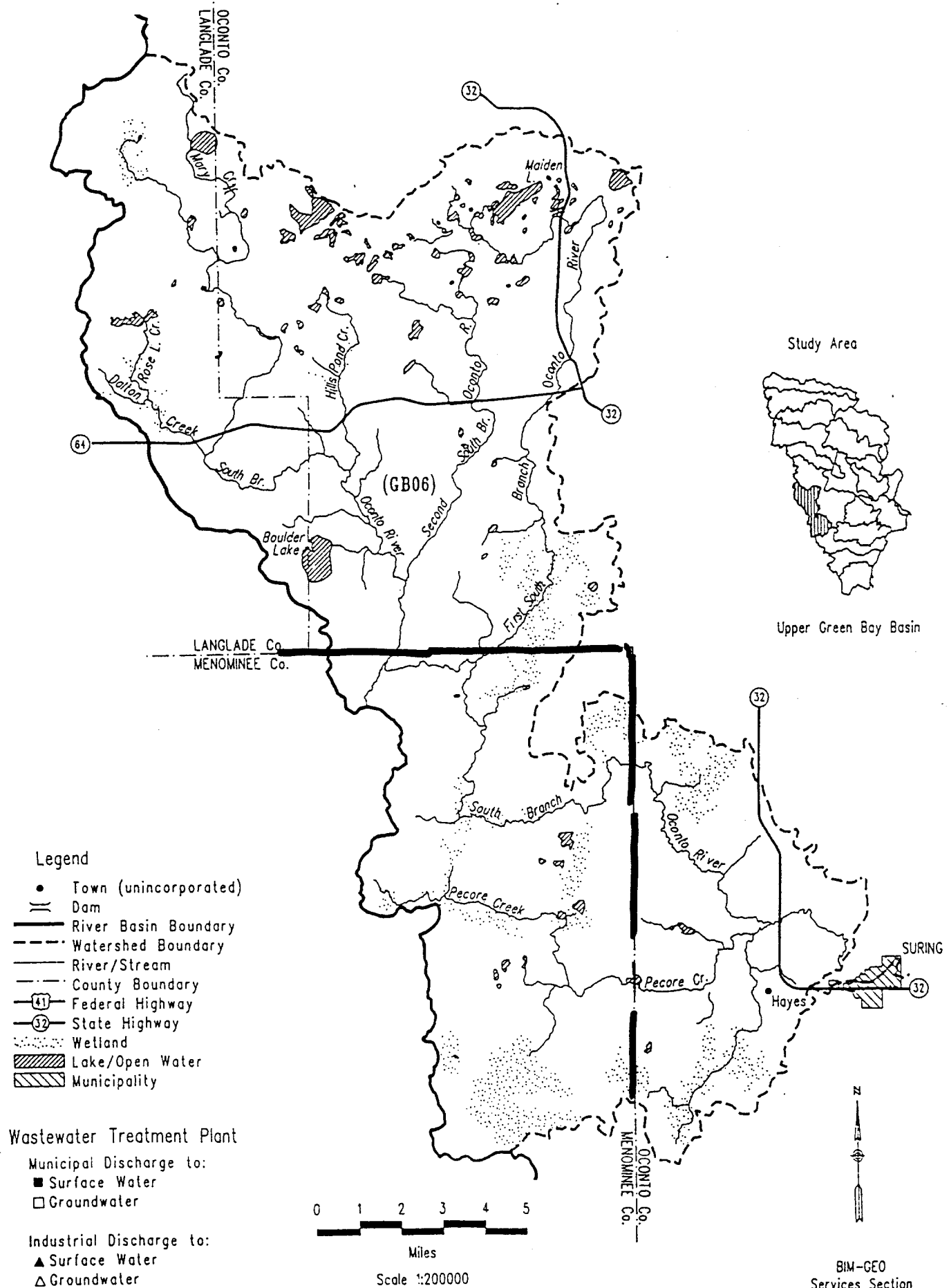


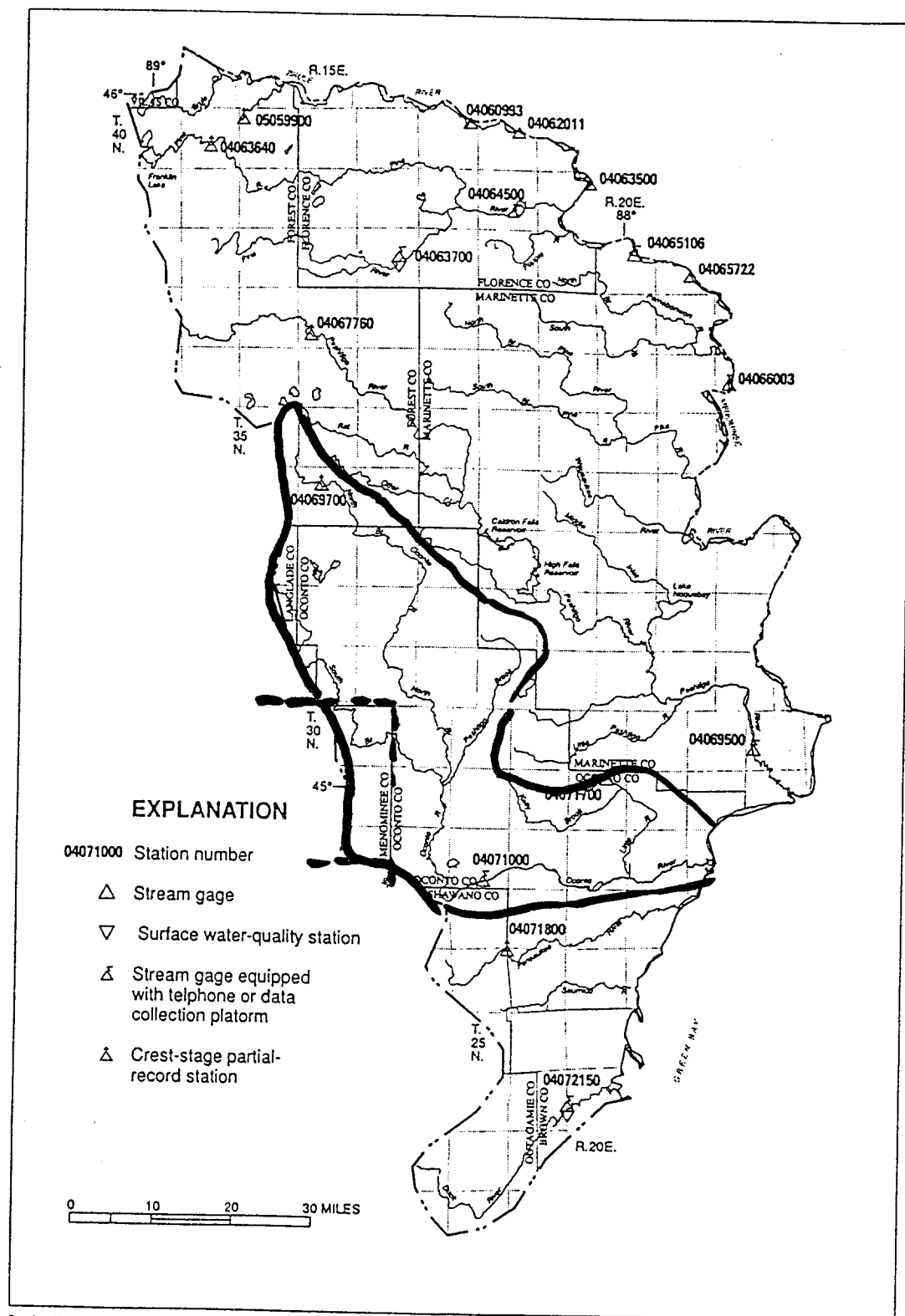


# Wolf River / Langlade and Evergreen River Watershed (WR18-112)



# South Branch Oconto River (GB06) Watershed





## MENOMINEE-OCONTO-PESHTIGO BASIN

## BIA-MAO Environmental Services

Page 1 of 5

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## BIA-MAO Environmental Services

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